

FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

1425 K STREET, N.W.
11TH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

Telephone
202 783-5070

Facsimile
202 783-2331

Web Site
www.fr.com

December 1, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 00167-432002

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Presented for filing is a new continuation patent application of:

Applicant: DENNIS COLLERAN AND STEFAN GABRIEL

Title: TISSUE REPAIR SYSTEM

The prior application is assigned of record to Smith & Nephew, Inc., a Delaware corporation, by virtue of an assignment submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office and recorded on November 8, 2001 at 012301/0954.

Enclosed are the following papers, including those required to receive a filing date under 37 CFR §1.53(b):

	<u>Pages</u>
Specification	11
Claims	3
Abstract	1
Declaration	2
Drawing(s)	12

Enclosures:

- Form PTO-1449, 5 pages, listing documents cited in the parent application(s). Please confirm that these have been considered in this application by returning a copy of the Form PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials.
- Preliminary Amendment (3 pages)
- Serial Number Card.
- Postcard.

This application is a continuation (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. application serial no. 09/986,376, filed November 8, 2001. The disclosure of the prior application is considered part of (and is incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application.

13281 U.S. PTO
120103
Frederick P. Fish
1855-1930
W.K. Richardson
1859-1951



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17858 U.S. PTO
10/724121
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Basic filing fee	\$770
Total claims in excess of 20 times \$18	\$0
Independent claims in excess of 3 times \$86	\$0
Fee for multiple dependent claims	\$0
Total filing fee:	\$770

A check for the filing fee is enclosed. Please apply any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

If this application is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at (202) 783-5070.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this application by returning the enclosed postcard.

Please direct all correspondence to:

JOEL R. PETROW
Smith & Nephew, Inc.
1450 Brooks Road
Memphis, TN 38116

Respectfully submitted,



Diana DiBerardino
Reg. No. 45,653
Enclosures
DZD/lbc
40190634.doc